
ANNUAL REPORT
JULY 1, 1972 - JUNE 30, 1973

DIVISION OF ANIMAL HEALTH
WALTER F. LEWIS
DIRECTOR

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATHAN CHANDLER
COMMISSIONER

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF ANIMAL HEALTH

July 1, 1972 - June 30, 1973

To the Commissioner of Agriculture:

In accordance with Section 38, Section 129, General Laws, Acts of 1932, I herewith submit the report of the Division of Animal Health for the fiscal year, July 1, 1972 to June 30, 1973 inclusive.

We are continuing the program of T.B. testing cattle once in three (3) years with the exception of dealer and problem herds being tested annually or more frequently if necessary.

We had one problem herd involving both T.B. and Brucellosis that required considerable time in repeated tests as often as every 14 days. At this time depopulation of this 300 cow herd appears to be the only solution.

We had three (3) cases of Encephalomyelitis in flocks of pheasants. No cases were reported in horses in the fiscal year 1973.

The Commonwealth had one outbreak of Hog Cholera but we still maintain our status as Hog Cholera Free. The Hog Cholera outbreak directed attention to the need for improved inspection procedures on hog farms. Tattooing of hogs on three (3) non garbage cooking farms was necessary as an enforcement procedure. This type of identification of hog quarantine for non compliance made unlawful marketing almost impossible. A new hog farm sanitary inspection procedure has been started. A Hog Industry Committee has been organized in cooperation with the Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation. This has already helped to improve conditions on hog farms.

The Brucellosis Eradication Program in hogs has been reactivated and is receiving the strong support of the Hog Industry Committee and both State and Federal Animal Health Officials.

Massachusetts continues to maintain its certified Free Brucellosis Status according to Federal Regulations.

The Laboratories reported nineteen (19) positive cases of Equine Infectious Anemia in horses. These animals are under permanent quarantine or have been destroyed.

Attention was given to the development of Rules and Regulations needed to implement the New Horse Stable and Riding Instructor Licensing Laws. The enforcement of these laws are to be under the direction of the Division of Animal Health when funds are made available.

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The supply of large animal veterinarians continues to be very short. It has been difficult to properly man our programs.

During the fiscal year the usual number of miscellaneous diseases were reported.

The Division, as for many years, is still receiving the excellent cooperation of the Animal Health Division, United States Department of Agriculture, for which we are most appreciative.

Following is information and statistics in detail covering the various activities of the Division.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter F. Lewis
Director

BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS

There were eight hundred and twelve (812) tuberculin herd tests, thirty-five thousand one hundred and eighty-two (35,182) animal tests applied to which one hundred and twenty-seven (127) head of cattle were declared reactors, as compared with one thousand and seventy-four (1,074) tuberculin herd tests and forty-seven thousand two hundred and eighty-two (47,282) animal tests applied the previous fiscal year to which nineteen (19) head of cattle reacted.

One hundred and six (106) of the one hundred and twenty-seven (127) head declared to be reactors were reported as having "no gross lesions" of tuberculosis at time of slaughter.

Two hundred and eleven (211) herds containing four thousand five hundred and eighty-three (4,583) head of cattle, included in the census report of June 30, 1972, were disposed of by the owners prior to the census period ending June 30, 1973.

Ninety-seven (97) herds containing one thousand and five (1,005) head of cattle, to which testing has not previously been conducted are included in the census report of the period ending June 30, 1973.

Tuberculin tests are conducted by State and Federal accredited veterinarians under a State and Federal Cooperative Plan for the establishment of tuberculosis-free herds and the eradication of bovine tuberculosis.

Following is a summary of the tuberculin tests as made by veterinarians for the twelve-month period of this report:

	HERDS	HEAD	REACTORS
Veterinarians paid by the State on a salary basis	472	19,485	127
Veterinarians paid by the State as Program Agents	337	15,218	
Veterinarians paid by the owner (Authorized herd tests)	3	479	
	812	35,182	127

During the fiscal year owners were reimbursed for grade cattle amounting to \$16,568.80.

COUNTY CENSUSAS OFJUNE 30, 1973

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>HERDS</u>	<u>HEAD</u>	<u>100 of More Head</u>	
			<u>HERDS</u>	<u>HEAD</u>
Barnstable	4	126		
Berkshire	351	12,738	31	4,630
Bristol	291	11,017	19	3,740
Dukes	17	128		
Essex	147	4,585	10	1,823
Franklin	433	13,646	24	3,782
Hampden	231	5,183	1	102
Hampshire	357	12,031	21	3,450
Middlesex	175	5,492	11	1,802
Nantucket	1	36		
Norfolk	107	2,707	3	451
Plymouth	167	6,622	14	3,887
Worcester	666	23,183	47	7,279
TOTALS	2,947	97,494	181	30,946

PRIVATE CALFHOOD VACCINATIONS

(OWNER'S EXPENSE)

<u>MONTH</u>		<u>HERDS</u>	<u>HEAD</u>
July	1972	25	113
August		17	100
September		26	68
October		42	206
November		43	161
December		19	134
January	1973	22	149
February		31	219
March		35	181
April		27	157
May		30	151
June		<u>23</u>	<u>152</u>
	TOTAL	340	1,791

BRUCELLOSIS

The Brucellosis program has been carried on in accordance with Chapter 129, General Laws as amended by Chapter 527, Acts of 1956.

During the fiscal year 1973 there were ninety-six (96) cattle reactors (all grades). Reimbursement to owners amounted to four hundred and seventy-five dollars (\$475.00) for nineteen (19) animals. Supplementary compensation for balance will be paid when appropriation is made.

Following is a tabulation of the results of laboratory examination of the blood samples from cattle under this program; also from goats and swine.

BRUCELLOSIS

7/1/72 - 6/30/73

	<u>Negative</u>	<u>Reactors</u>	<u>Suspicious</u>	<u>Others*</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Cattle	10,065	101	160	31	10,357
Goats	195	0	5	1	201
Swine	1,151	95	0	0	1,246
Sheep	1	0	0	0	1
Horses	3	1	0	0	4
Buffalo	7	0	1	0	8
Deer	16	0	0	0	16
Elk	1	0	0	0	1
Llama	2	0	0	0	2
Aoudad	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>
TOTALS	11,443	197	166	32	11,838

* Containers broken, insufficient amount of serum, hemolyzed.

Certified Herds: CATTLE

Certified Brucellosis-Free Herds	11
Cattle in Certified Brucellosis-Free Herds	800

Certified Herds: GOATS

Certified Brucellosis-Free Herds	8
Goats in Certified Brucellosis-Free Herds	64

Validated Herds: SWINE

Validated Brucellosis-Free Herds	8
Swine in Validated Brucellosis-Free Herds	443

MILK RING TESTS

<u>Negative</u>	<u>Suspicious</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
4,637	9	4,646

GOATS

7/1/72 - 6/30/73

This Division arranges for the tuberculin testing and blood testing of goats provided the owner signs an agreement to the effect that any goats declared as reactors to either test would be immediately disposed of for slaughter with no compensation allowed by the Commonwealth.

Under the new T. B. testing program, goats will be tested on the same basis as cattle, every three years.

Under this agreement sixty eight (68) goats were tuberculin tested and sixty six (66) blood tested. One (1) goat showed a suspicious reaction.

RABIES

Under the Massachusetts Department of Public Health regulations Chapter 111, General Laws as amended by Chapter 265, Acts of 1938, Sections 6 and 7 "Dog Bite" is declared a disease dangerous to public health.

Chapter 129, Section 21 of the General Laws, was amended under Chapter 29, Acts of 1963 to read: "All dogs known to have bitten persons shall be quarantined for a period of ten (10) days for observation, at the end of which period, if no symptoms of rabies have developed, said animals may be released from quarantine on order of the Director."

Investigation of reported injuries inflicted to persons by biting dogs and the quarantining of such dogs is one of the duties of the Inspector of Animals.

One thousand two hundred and twenty-two (1,222) Persons were bitten by stray animals. The brains of six hundred and thirty-two (632) animals were sent to Wassermann Laboratory for examination. Of that number five hundred and thirty-one (531) were reported to have bitten six hundred and seven (607) persons.

The following tabulation is a record of bites inflicted by dogs and other animals.

RABIESBite Cases

	Released Quarantined Animals	Destroyed No Examina- tion	Heads Laboratory NEGATIVE	Heads Laboratory POSITIVE	Heads Laboratory UNSATIS- FACTORY
<u>1972</u>					
July	1,523	3	60	1	7
August	1,646	7	72	1	11
September	1,280	3	62	0	5
October	1,228	2	50	1	0
November	778	1	29	0	3
December	681	1	32	1	2
<u>1973</u>					
January	659	1	28	0	1
February	622	3	25	1	3
March	807	2	46	0	0
April	1,023	5	42	1	2
May	1,544	3	57	3	3
June	1,481	7	77	0	6
TOTALS	13,272	38	580	9	43

RABIES
Bite Cases --- Fiscal Year 1973

	Released Quarantined Animals	Destroyed No Examina- tion	Heads to Laboratory NEGATIVE	Heads to Laboratory POSITIVE	Heads to Laboratory UNSATIS- FACTORY
Dogs	12,661	34	142	0	9
Bats	0	0	64	8	11
Cats	349	1	103	0	2
Chipmunks	2	0	24	0	2
Cougars	1	0	0	0	0
Field Mice	0	0	3	0	0
Flying Squirrels	0	0	2	0	1
Foxes	1	0	3	0	1
Ganders	1	0	0	0	0
Gerbils	71	0	17	0	0
Guinea Pigs	8	0	8	0	0
Hamsters	52	1	34	0	5
Horses	11	0	0	0	0
Kittens	0	0	5	0	1
Lions	1	0	0	0	0
Lizards	1	0	0	0	0
Mice	19	0	16	0	1
Moles	0	0	5	0	0
Monkeys	21	0	1	0	0
Mules	2	0	0	0	0
Muskrats	0	0	1	0	0
Ocelots	1	0	0	0	0
Opposums	0	0	1	0	0
Otters	1	0	0	0	0
Owl Monkeys	0	0	1	0	0
Parrots	1	0	0	0	0
Pet Hamsters	0	0	1	0	0
Pet Raccoons	0	0	1	0	0
Pet Rats	0	0	4	0	0
Pet Squirrels	0	0	2	0	0
Pet White Mice	0	0	1	0	0
Ponies	1	0	0	0	0
Rabbits	30	1	19	0	2
Raccoons	10	0	23	1	0
Rats	13	0	10	0	2
Red Foxes	0	0	1	0	0
Red Squirrels	0	0	2	0	0
Sheep	0	0	1	0	0
Shrews	0	0	1	0	0
Siamese Cats	0	0	2	0	0
Skunks	6	1	9	0	0
Snakes	1	0	0	0	0
Squirrels	5	0	58	0	2
Voles	0	0	13	0	2
Weasel	0	0	1	0	0

(2)

RABIES
Bite Cases --- Fiscal Year 1973

	Released Quarantined Animals	Destroyed No Examina- tion	Heads to Laboratory NEGATIVE	Heads to Laboratory POSITIVE	Heads to Laboratory UNSATIS- FACTORY
White Mice	0	0	0	0	1
Wolves	2	0	0	0	0
Woodchucks	0	0	1	0	1
Total	13,272	38	580	9	43

CATTLE IMPORTS

7/1/72

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6/30/73

Canada	1101	New York	3306
Connecticut	1447	North Carolina	1
Maine	2180	Ohio	10
Maryland	12	Pennsylvania	37
Michigan	2	Rhode Island	186
Missouri	17	Vermont	531
New Hampshire	498	Virginia	2
New Jersey	114	Wisconsin	24

TOTAL - 9,468

Seven hundred and nine (709) permits were issued covering nine thousand four hundred and sixty-eight (9,468) head of cattle.

EXPORTS --- JULY 1, 1972 THRU JUNE 30, 1973

Interstate certificates of health were issued on four thousand seven hundred eighty (4,780) head of cattle; fifty-five (55) goats; fifty (50) rabbits; forty-four (44) sheep; and ninety-six (96) swine, exported to other states and countries, as follows:

CATTLE

<u>DESTINATION</u>	<u>HEAD</u>	<u>DESTINATION</u>	<u>HEAD</u>
Alabama	6	Michigan	1
Arkansas	28	Missouri	46
Bermuda	7	Montana	23
California	2	New Hampshire	192
Canada	267	New Jersey	19
Colorado	8	New York	963
Connecticut	731	North Carolina	1
Dominican Republic	14	Ohio	12
Georgia	2	Oklahoma	129
Honduras	6	Pennsylvania	238
Illinois	9	Rhode Island	604
Indiana	75	South Carolina	1
Iowa	276	Spain	42
Jamaica	4	Tennessee	62
Kentucky	7	Vermont	702
Louisiana	74	Virginia	8
Maine	217	Wisconsin	<u>3</u>
Maryland	1		
		Total	4,780

GOATS

Arkansas	14
Dominican Republic	3
Greece	13
Kentucky	22
Vermont	<u>3</u>
Total	55

SWINE

Connecticut	30
Greece	9
Illinois	29
Indiana	1
New York	18
Rhode Island	<u>9</u>
Total	96

RABBITS

Greece	50
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SHEEP

Kentucky	17
Ohio	13
Pennsylvania	<u>14</u>
Total	44

PERMITS TO FEED GARBAGE TO SWINE

VESICULAR EXANTHEMA PROGRAM

Chapter 655 - Acts of 1953

Fiscal year 1973

During the fiscal year 1973, one hundred and seventy-six (176) Permits were issued for Feeding Garbage to Swine.

LICENSE TO DEAL IN PORCINE ANIMALS

In accordance with General Laws, Chapter 129, Secs. 39, 40 and 43, as amended by Chapter 312, Acts of 1971, fourteen (14) Swine Dealer Licenses and twenty-one (21) plates were issued.

LICENSING OF PET SHOPS

In accordance with Chapter 129, Section 39A of the General Laws, Chapter 993, Acts of 1971, two hundred and ninety-three (293) Licenses were issued for the Operation of Pet Shops.

EQUINE CERTIFICATION

July 1, 1972 - June 30, 1973

During the fiscal year 1973, we issued three hundred (300) Certificates of Equine Examination for six hundred and four (604) horses leaving the State of Massachusetts for Shows, Fairs, Races and for Sales.

We received five hundred and fifty-nine (559) Certificates of Equine Examination for one thousand and four hundred and thirty-seven (1,437) horses that came into the State for Exhibition, Racing, Breeding and for purchase by Massachusetts horse men. These horses came from thirty-seven (37) States and Canada, Chile, England, Germany and New Zealand.

EQUINE INFECTIOUS ANEMIA

There were nineteen (19) cases of Equine Infectious Anemia (Swamp Fever) that proved positive to the Coggins Test.

EQUINE ENCEPHALOMYELITIS

There were sixteen thousand two hundred and thirty (16,230) pheasants, on four premises, quarantined under suspicion of having Encephalomyelitis.

MISCELLANEOUS DISEASES

PULLORUM	5 flocks of birds were quarantined and later released.
LARYNGOTRACHEITIS	3 flocks were placed under quarantine.
EXOTIC NEWCASTLE	2 parakeets and 1 parrot were disposed of.
CONTAGIOUS ECTHYMA	This disease was diagnosed in a flock of sheep.
LEPTOSPIROSIS	2 Llama and 1 Bison were positive.
SCRAPIE	Flock of sheep and herd of goats on same farm. All were slaughtered.
TUBERCULOSIS	Auodad (wild sheep)
BRUCELLOSIS	2 ponies were quarantined and subsequently released.

QUARANTINE STATION AT LITTLETON

Total number of livestock received at the Farmers Live Animal Market Exchange in Littleton from July 1, 1972 to June 30, 1973 was as follows:

Cattle	15,246
Calves	17,367
Swine	23,758
Sheep	811
TOTAL	<u>57,182</u>

The following Massachusetts animals went through the chute:

Tuberculosis Suspects	2
Brucellosis Reactors	23
Brucellosis Suspects	18
Swine Brucellosis Reactors	37

In addition to FLAME in Littleton, the following animals were received and sold at the Livestock Auction in Easton and the Northampton Cooperative Auction Association, Inc. in Whately, Massachusetts:

<u>EASTON</u>		<u>WHATELY</u>	
Cattle	6,795	Cattle	4,987
Calves	6,340	Calves	12,024
Sheep and Goats	449	Sheep and Goats	732
TOTAL	<u>13,584</u>	Swine	1,294
		TOTAL	<u>19,037</u>

LICENSED DEALERS IN BOVINE ANIMALS

During the fiscal year 1973, there were ninety-three (93) licenses issued to dealers in dairy and beef cattle, and one hundred and twenty-eight (128) plates were sent out for use on the trucks operated by these dealers.

A total of six thousand and twelve (6,012) dairy cattle and four hundred and fifteen (415) beef cattle were reported by licensed dealers as purchased and sold.